| | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
|--|--|--|------------------------------|
| Notice of Allowability | 10/544,106 | MAEKAWA ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | J |
| | Geoffrey L. Knable | 1733 | |
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| The MAILING DATE of this communication appeal All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RI of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 | (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in or other appropriate commul IGHTS. This application is su | this application. If not include nication will be mailed in due | led |
| 1. This communication is responsive to <u>application filed 3-5-2</u> | <u>2004</u> . | | |
| 2. ☑ The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-4</u> . | " | | |
| 3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority unapply (a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the: | nder 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) o | r (f). | . |
| Certified copies of the priority documents have | been received. | | |
| Certified copies of the priority documents have | been received in Application | n No | |
| Copies of the certified copies of the priority do | cuments have been received | in this national stage applica | ation from the |
| International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). | • | | |
| * Certified copies not received: | " | | |
| Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONM | | a reply complying with the re | quirements |
| THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE. | ETT OF THE application. | • | 1. |
| 4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subm INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give | | | NOTICE OF |
| 5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") mus | t be submitted. | | |
| (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers | on's Patent Drawing Review | (PTO-948) attached | |
| 1) 🔲 hereto or 2) 🔲 to Paper No./Mail Date | • | | For the Control of the first |
| (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date | s Amendment / Comment or | in the Office action of | |
| Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1 each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in t | .84(c)) should be written on the | e drawings in the front (not the | e back) of |
| 6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the depo- attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT | sit of BIOLOGICAL MATE | RIAL must be submitted. | Note the |
| attached Examiner's continent regarding INEQUINCINETY | TOR THE BEI CON OF BIO | EOGIONE WATERINE. | |
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| Attachment(s) | E □ Niakina at list | Datant Application | |
| 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | | ormal Patent Application | |
| 2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. ☐ Interview Su Paper No./N | Mail Date | |
| 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 8-2-2005 | 7. Examiner's A | Amendment/Comment | |
| 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit | 8. 🛛 Examiner's S | Statement of Reasons for All | owance |
| of Biological Material | 9. | . ` ` ` ` | |
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REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Among the closest prior art, Henley et al. (US 4,239,565), Rudder et al. (US 3,945,866) and Yabe (US 3,909,337) each suggest formation of a first stage/step carcass which is removed from the first stage/step machine and shaped on a second stage/step machine using a bladder, the tire then being placed/assembled in the vulcanizing mold while still installed on the bladder used to shape the tire carcass. These patents do not however teach or render obvious removing the first green tire from the first step/stage molding machine followed by installation of a vulcanizer bladder unit which is inflated, the first green tire being placed once again on the first step/stage molding machine while the vulcanizer bladder unit is still installed, and application of the belts and tread to form the completed green tire and placement into a mold while the vulcanizer bladder unit is still installed on the completed green tire as claimed. Leblond et al. (US 3,873,397) is exemplary of the known formation of a tire in a single stage/step process in which the green tire is built and shaped at a single stage/machine. The tire is not however removed for installation of a vulcanizer bladder and placed once again on the machine followed by molding with the tire on this same bladder: Snyder (US 1,732,778) is exemplary of the known installation of a vulcanizer bladder to a green tire but likewise fails to teach or render obvious a method as claimed. None of the closest prior art, then, would teach or render obvious a method as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Geoffrey L. Knable whose telephone number is 571-272-1220. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Crispino can be reached on 571-272-1226. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Geoffrey L. Knable Primary Examiner Art Unit 1733

G. Knable September 16, 2007